Salem Steel Plant

2234. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) what are the steps taken for the installation of hot rolling facility at Salem Steel Plant;

(b) whether any agreement was signed with a German Company for the supply of hot rolling steckel mill equipment;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what is the total cost of this project and by when it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (d) The scheme for the installation of the Hot Rolling Facilities (HRM) at Salem Steel Plant was approved by the Government in April, 1991. The total cost of the project is Rs. 664.60 crores inclusive of foreign exchange component of Rs 218.86 crores. The project is likely to be completed by April, 1995.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. An agreement has been signed with M|s SMS Schleemann Siemag, Germany in January, 1993 for supply, erection and commissioning of Hot Rolling Steckel Mill consisting of a Reheating Furnace, Roughing Mill, Steckel Mill, Boiler and Roll Grinding Machine

Steel Export Promotion Council

2235. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to constitute a Steel Export Promotion Council; and

(b) if so, what are the details of its set up and functions to be assigned to the council?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) There is no concrete proposal at present for setting up an export promotion council for the steel industry .

Modernisation of Steel Plants

2236. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any progress with regard to the modernisation proposals of Bhilai and Bokaro Steel Plants in order to increase their present capacity to 4.5 million tonnes each; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) Modernisation and technological improvement of a steel plant is a continuous process. Though there are some specific schemes proposed during the VIII Five Year Plan to be taken up in Bhilai Steel Plant, there is no comprehensive project for its modernisation.

While the Government has already accorded approval 'in principle' to the modernisation of Bokaro Steel Plant, Steel Authority of India Limited has submitted a proposal which aims primarily at introducing continuous casting technology and partial modernisation of Hot Strip Mill together with related service facilities. The proposal is presently under consideration of the Government.

Setting up of Steel Plants in Maharashtra

2237. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the first big steel plant in the State of Maharashtra is going to be set up by the Usha Ispat Ltd.; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof including its projected capacity, cost of the Steel Plant and job opportunities for the local youth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) As reported by M/s Usha Ispat Ltd., the company has drawn up a proposal to take up forward integration of their pig iron facilities at Redi in Maharashtra, to produce 5.13 lakh tonnes per year of liquid steel. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 1020 crores inclusive of the pig iron complex. The commissioning date of the project is by end of 1994, and it is expected to generate employment for 2500 persons.

Modernisation of Private Sector Steel Industry

2238. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposal for modernisation of the private sector steel industry is under Government's consideration; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) There is no proposal with the Government for modernisation of the private sector steel industry. However, under the new Industrial Policy announced in July, 1991, 'iron and steel' has been removed from the list of industries reserved for the public sector and it has also been exempted from the requirements of compulsory licensing. Government approval is therefore, not required for establishment of new projects or expansion of existing ones provided the location is not within 25 Kms. of a city having a population of more than 10 lakhs as per the 1991 Census.

Increase in Production of Steel by Sail

2239. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state: whether Government propose to establish more SAIL units in India in the Eighth Five Year Plan and if so, the names of the States where these units are likely to be established?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): No, Sir.

In so far as SAIL is concerned, there is no proposal to establish more SAIL Units in India during the Eighth Five Year Plan.

Import of coking coal from Austria

2240. HRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any contract has been signed by Steel Authority of India Ltd., for import of coking coal from Austria; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including quantity, prices, terms and conditions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Construction of Bridges in Delhi

2241. SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some under-bridges and over-bridges are under construction in Delhi;

(b) if so, their locations bridgewise with date of commencement of construction in each case;